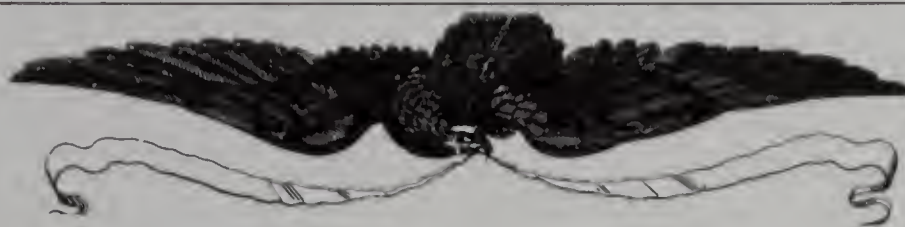

JOURNAL OF THE BARBER COIN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY

Volume 9, #4

Winter 1998



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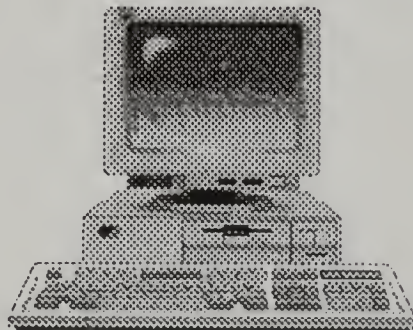
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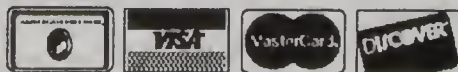
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JOURNAL OF THE
BARBER COIN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY

Published quarterly. Dedicated to bringing together people with similar interests in Barber Coinage for the purpose of advancing appreciation of this series.

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- Philip Carrigan *President*
Russell Easterbrooks *Editor, BCCS Journal*
Paul Reuter *Secretary/Treasurer*
Tom Mulvaney *Photographer*
Regular Contributing Editor *Jack White*

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BCCS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I look to the close of 1998 and reflect on the significant numismatic happenings of the year.

Possibly the highlight of the year would be the health and growing strength of numismatics overall. While this likely signals increases in prices, it surely provides improved availability of rare Barber material whether by date or condition

Our Society will complete another excellent year marked by stability in membership and our financial status. This is achieved only through the efforts of members who contribute to *The Journal*, those who recruit new members and to Paul Reuter, Secretary/Treasurer and Russell Easterbrooks, Editor. The only missing element here is identifying the person who will volunteer as the Society variety contact. I'll be working on this objective during the holiday season.

Another Barber *event* is the recent sale of the finest known specimen of the 1894-S Dime by our friends at Dave Lawrence Rare Coins. Please read the details on this coin later in this issue. I must note as significant but sad, the announcement by Dave of his diagnosis with ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis). Many of us will miss his presence at shows and his energy promoting Barbers and numismatics at-large. See the last issue for further information including Dave's E-mail address.

I attended the Baltimore Show at the end of October and wish to share just a-few thoughts from this well-organized and attended show. Bowers & Merena had an outstanding auction. While I didn't buy any Barbers, I did manage to satisfy my Canadian interests by buying two lots. I had an opportunity to view a 'fresh deal' John Feigenbaum of DLRC purchased which included many nice Barber quarters with no less than two high-end examples of the 1913-S. I had a nice conversation with Larry Shepard of Simco who joined the Society at the Portland ANA. Larry will be advertising in *The Journal* but is working on copy while trying to keep up with a brisk market. I was privileged to have him show me no less than three Barber quarters graded by PGCS as MS-69! There was a coin for every taste from white to nicely toned (unfortunately, those were coins not for every pocketbook).

In closing, I hope each member has personally fulfilling New Year and a productive one, numismatically. Remember the ANA Convention in Chicago during August; a Barber exhibit or Numismatic Theater presentation could be considered. ❖

Phil Carrigan



FROM THE EDITOR

Happy New Year! This past year I attended more coin shows than ever, talked with hundreds of collectors, as well as dealers, who all felt the upsurge in our hobby. Interest in numismatics will continue to climb as the state commemorative coin program begins entering new designs into circulation. This will undoubtedly increase the collector base, sending F to AU coins into the spot light.

It doesn't take a wizard to figure this out, as we all think back to our early years of coin collecting. Presently there are more coin related books available than ever before, which can only enhance a new collectors' interests. This is a great advantage over my early years as a collector. Today my library is immense, and I'm always looking through antique book stores for early books about history and numismatics. This spring while vacationing in Maine I searched through a number of book shops. When I returned home I read in *Coin World* an article by Dave Bowers describing his search for interesting books in the very shop I had just visited! What a small world we live in.

Barber coins stand to become highly visible in the coming years, as sets of coins dated; 1800, 1900, and the coming year 2000 are assembled. I for one will be buying 1900 dated Barber's for sure! I also expect to see major action



companies highlighting collector grade coins, with less emphases on common date MS 65-69 coins, as new collectors enter the market place.

Michael Fry's article {fall journal} about the

1905-micro-O two die types, brought some interesting mail. Michael has done a follow-up article utilizing this and other information for this journal. If you have any further information make a note of it on your membership renewal form.

It's important that our society continue this and other research to better inform us all. Your dues are an important part in funding our journal to publish this material for us and future generations. So please take the time to fill out the renewal form and send us your check. If you did not find a membership renewal form in this journal your dues are already paid. Your articles, comments, and coin photos are ACCENTUAL for our journal production, so please send me your material!

When I took on the Editor's job for our society. I hoped to bring back the very successful Literary Contest we ran some years ago. Your editor had the honor of winning that first contest, and I can't tell you the overwhelming feelings of satisfaction I had knowing the membership enjoyed my article and voted it the best for that year. It surely was a motivating factor in my continued research and writing. So, beginning with the Spring 1999 journal, through the Winter 1999 journal, all members submitting Barber related articles will be part of the BCCS 1999 Literary Contest. Next year's membership renewal form will have the articles listed, for the membership to vote on. The article receiving the most votes will win a 1st place prize of \$50, second prize will be \$25, and third prize a free BCCS one year membership. So, make sure your membership is up to date, and go to work. Type your article or hand write it, but get it in the mail to me at; 40 Mountain Rd, Worcester, Vt. 05682. Your editor stands ready to help you with any necessary touch-ups. One thing is for sure however, if you don't try, you can't win. ❖

Happy Collecting,
Russell Easterbrooks



THE JOURNAL NEEDS YOUR ARTICLES!

If you've got some information to share with our Society,
we'd like to publish it. Our Society needs your input!

Send your articles and information for the Barber Bits section, to;
Russell at the address, on page one.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS MARCH 30th



MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER

B C C S

TREASURER'S REPORT
TWELVE MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1998

OPENING BALANCE JANUARY 1, 1998 \$4037.54

RECEIPTS:

DUES	\$3775.00
BACK ISSUES	149.00
DONATION	10.00
ADVERTISING	<u>1862.00</u>

TOTAL 5796.00

FUNDS AVAILABLE \$9833.54

EXPENDITURES:

JOURNAL PRODUCTION	\$4875.19
POSTAGE	157.88
BANK CHARGES	8.66
ANA DUES	33.00
ADVERTISING	<u>75.00</u>

TOTAL 5149.73

DECEMBER 31, 1998 BALANCE \$4683.81

Paul Reuter
Treasurer/Secretary

BCCS ADVERTISEMENT RATES

¹ / ₈ page	1 issue	\$12	4 issues	\$40
¹ / ₄ page	1 issue	\$20	4 issues	\$70
¹ / ₂ page	1 issue	\$30	4 issues	\$100
1 page	1 issue	\$70	4 issues	\$250
1 page inside front or rear cover	1 issue	\$80	4 issues	\$300
1 page outside rear cover	1 issue	\$125	4 issues	\$400

1894-S DIME SOLD BY DAVID LAWRENCE RARE COINS

John Feigenbaum of David Lawrence Rare Coins has sold the James Stack specimen of the famous 1894-S Barber dime to a private collector, who wishes to remain anonymous. The coin, which currently is in an NGC Proof-66 holder, was purchased from Jay Parrino's The Mint for an undisclosed sum and sold for \$825,000, the third largest amount ever paid for a United States silver coin. It is the most ever spent on any U.S. dime or any coin in the Barber series.

The dime sold is often referred to as the James Stack specimen and is the finest known of the 9-10 surviving examples of this great American rarity. The coin last sold at auction in January 1990 in the Stack's sale of James A. Stack (no relation) dime collection. The hammer price of the coin then was \$275,000.

David "Lawrence" Feigenbaum, founder of David Lawrence Rare Coins and John's father emphasized this example is truly a consensus gem having been graded Proof-66 at both PCGS and NCC. Other known examples of 1894-S dimes range in grade from AG-3 to Proof-65. Of the original 24 coins, only 10 are accounted for today. David Lawrence Rare Coins has specialized in Barber coinage since 1979. More can be learned about the history and pedigree of the 1894-S dimes from David Lawrence's book, *The Complete Guide to Barber Dimes*. David holds BCCS membership #2 and, with John Feigenbaum, support our Society well. ♦

THE LEGENDARY 1894 'S' DIME



THE RELATIVE RARITY OF TWO 1905 O MICRO O DIMES

by Michael Fey

In the Fall, 1998 issue of the *BCCS Journal*, I reported on two different obverses for the 1905 o Micro o dime. In the article, I called for information on which specimens collectors had so that a follow-up article could be prepared.

Due to a pleasant and prompt response from many BCCS members, I am pleased to report the results of the survey in this Journal.

Collectors reported 31 specimens of Die #2 (1 points to the right of "B"), and only 15 specimens of Die #1 (1 points to the "B"). Relatively speaking, it would appear that Die #1 is about twice as rare as Die #2.

The following data was further extracted from the information sent to me:

Die #1 Condition Census: PCGS 62, NGC 58, raw XF scratched

Die #2 Condition Census: NGC 58, Certified AU55, Certified AU53,

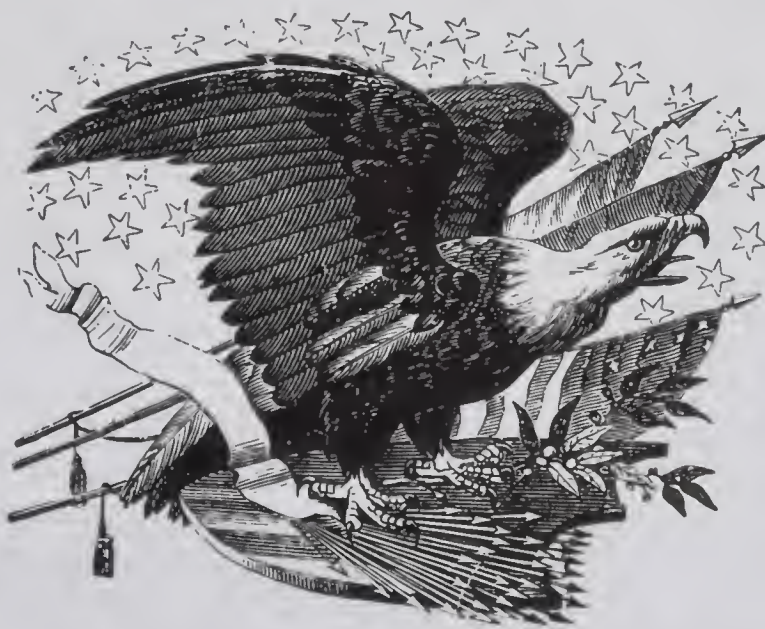
The data reported in the September 1998 ANACS Population Report shows 30-1905 o Micro o specimens of both varieties were graded as follows:

ANACS 62, 60, 58, 55 (2), 53 (2), 50 (3), *40 (3), 35 (2) 12-15 (6), 1-6 (10)

*The Eliasberg specimen was an ANACS 40.

We can assume there is some overlap between ANACS graded specimens and specimens reported to me without regard for grade.

Based on all the data reviewed thus far, any 1905 o Micro o Barber dime should be considered scarce, but if you had to purchase just a single specimen, Die #1 would be the scarcer of two. ♦



NOTICE

1999 ANA Convention • Chicago, IL

The 1999 ANA will be held in August at the Rosemont Convention Center.
This is the same location as the highly successful 1991 ANA.

BCCS members should consider exhibiting or giving a
Numismatic Theater presentation.

Please contact the following individuals based on your interests:

Exhibiting – Paul Hybert Exhibit Chair, 312/567-3976,

Email prh@ece.iit.edu

Presentation – Phil Carrigan, Numismatic Theater; 847/937-5129

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EMBLEMATIC SYMBOLS OF LIBERTY

By Russell Easterbrooks

When the United States Mint began coining operations, “a device emblematic to liberty” was chosen by Congress to represent our country’s coinage. This we can thank in small part to George Washington who adamantly objected to the proposed idea of using presidential portraits on our country’s first coins as “monarchical”. The image of Miss Liberty, as displayed on our early coins, has seen many design changes.



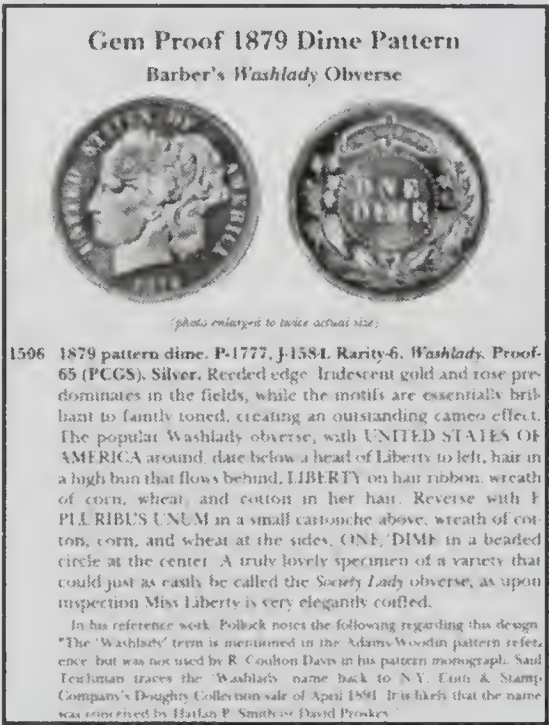
Mint engraver Charles Barber’s depiction of Liberty may not be the most beautiful, but he clearly understood the symbols of Liberty. One such symbol Barber used with his 1892 dime, quarter, and half dollar designs, was the Liberty cap. The Liberty cap has long been a symbol of freedom which has graced numerous coin designs of our country. This cap was popularized during the French Revolution when it was worn by revolutionaries or carried on long poles to symbolize the struggle for freedom. The Liberty cap was first depicted in this country in 1782 when

French engraver Augustin Dupre used it on the *Libertas Americana* medal, which commemorated the Declaration of Independence. This cap, which hangs from a pole featured on Dupre’s medal, was suggested as part of the design by Benjamin Franklin who was in Paris at the time. This design in turn, inspired the use of the Liberty cap for the United States coinage. Barber’s use of the Liberty cap also included a wreath of laurel leaves and berries. Personally, I find this wreath to be a unique part of Barber’s design, because no other regular issue coin shows Liberty wearing a laurel wreath. We can see a wreath of laurel on some early colonial coins, including some honoring George Washington.

Another symbol Barber used with his 1892 coin designs, as well as with his earlier 1883 V-nickel was the Latin inscription, *E Pluribus Unum*; “one made up of many”. This inscription was first seen in this country on colonial coins. *E Pluribus Unum* appeared prominently on the New Jersey coppers of 1786, and latter on the famous Brasher Doubloon dated 1787. This durable inscription saw use on various coin designs until 1831. Than Mint Director Samuel Moore ordered the mint’s engraver to omit *E Pluribus Unum*, as a “redundant phrase to United States”. When the



Treasury Department protested, Moore traveled to Washington D.C. to justify his action. Moore's argument must have convinced the Treasury Department, because it wasn't until George Morgan's 1878 dollar design, that the popular inscription was reintroduced to one of our coins. Surprisingly even today, E Pluribus Unum remains on our coins, it is to bad however that Miss Liberty has been replaced.



This coin photo is from Bowers & Merena's "Rarities" sale.

Barber's use of the Great Seal of the United States on the reverse of the Barber quarter and half designs also required insight into the symbols represented within this design. On October 2, 1891 Barber wrote a letter to then superintendent Bosbyshell explaining his use of the great seal. Barber stated in part the following;

"The great seal is described as follows. An eagle displayed, bearing on his breast a shield, in his dexter talon an olive branch, in his sinister talon a bundle of arrows. With his beak he holds a scroll bearing the motto E Pluribus Unum, above and around the head are thirteen stars, clouds, and rays. From this material I formed my design adapting it to the requirement of a coin. It must be remembered there is no law governing the manner displaying the design of the seal, each artist takes the description

of the seal and displays it to suit his taste and shape of article he wishes to decorate with it. Therefore you will find in the Diplomatic medal the olive branch contains about fifty leaves, while on the Indian Peace medal of 1792 the branch has but {15}, and the seal of the U.S. on my commission has {17} leaves, showing that the artist's taste governed this point. I have used thirteen leaves to conform to the thirteen stars and thirteen arrows believing there should be unity in these numbers, also significance."

Barber also took great thought in the stars he used in his designs. In another letter to Bosbyshell he explains the following,

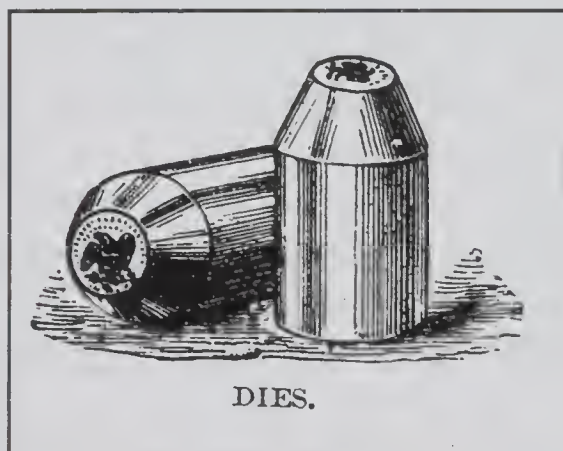
"In regard to the number of points to the stars, I beg to say, in Clark Heraldry page 164 you will find he says; 'A star consists of six, eight, or more points.' The same author quotes Mr. Nisbit, equally as good an authority, as follows, 'Mullets or five points he takes as stars when surrounded by celestial figures' as is the case in my design. Six pointed stars are English, while five points are used by France, Holland, and Germany, and also by the United States upon the flag."

Barber's use of symbols continued with his countless commemorative issues and pattern coins. Some of his proposed patterns, like this beautiful Columbia Standing half dollar, and the Washlady dime, were sadly never adopted.

Barber's research into his designs and their symbols proves his ideas were clearly more than just an artist point of view. His use of symbols defined his practical designs, and took precedence over high relief finely detailed designs other engravers used. Barber's designs clearly have stood the test of time, continuing to display symbols that have been utilized throughout our country's history. ❖



Photo courtesy of Smithsonian Institution.



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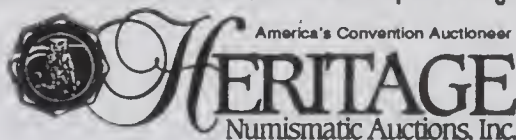
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AN 1894 LOVE TOKEN

by Jack White

At an early summer auction, while looking through an assortment of miscellaneous type material, I came across an interesting and unusual love token. The obverse is a choice about uncirculated 1894 Barber dime with nice original tone. The AU grade is the highest I've seen for a love token as most are in the very fine range. The engraving on the reverse reveals why the coin is such high grade. The date 1894 is in ornate style under the initials "BMP".

Dates engraved on love tokens are uncommon in my experience. As a general rule initials or a name {usually a female} are what are found most often, with fancy scroll around the edges, often quite gaudy in the Victorian style of the times in which they were produced. The era of love tokens had peaked just prior to the debut of the Barber silver series. Until I located this specimen, the only Barber love tokens I'd seen were all on 1892 coinage. With the introduction of a new silver coin design to work with after more than half a century of Seated Liberty design, it's quite understandable why 1892 Barbers were popular with engravers.

My 1894 love token dime is not only the first Barber piece not dated 1892 that I've seen, it's the only love token of any series or denomination with an engraved date the same as the date on the coin itself. This piece was probably obtained either directly from a bank in uncirculated condition or removed nearly immediately from circulation. It displays only the slightest hint of a rub. The date 1894 is quite meaningful. Could this piece possibly be an unknown example of the rare 1894-S? Perhaps future study of the obverse characteristics of the 1894-S dime will be published in which this ultra rarity can be identified by the obverse alone. Date position in regard to the denticles and any small die cracks may be found to be diagnostic. Maybe the 1894-S has a unique reed count similar to rare Carson City dimes of the early 1870's that have unique reed counts. Perhaps the American Numismatic Association has this information on file. I would enjoy seeing it. ❖

Editors note; Last year my brother found an interesting bracelet in an antique shop, decorated with eight Barber dime love tokens. Each coin was dated 1892, and each was engraved with a different name in fancy lettering. This was possibly a gift to "mom" by her eight siblings. Interestingly these eight coins represent three different dies, the date far to the left, the die chip variety, and a date placement far to the right. All the coins grade nice AU's and are attached to the bracelet by a small eyelet through a neat hole at twelve o'clock.

BARBER’S HAWAIIAN COINS
.....

by Russell Easterbrooks

Charles Barber designed countless coins, and medals during his tenure as engraver at the U.S. mint. One such design often overlooked by collectors is the Hawaiian silver coinage. The basic sketches for the Hawaiian coins were submitted to the mint by Claus Spreckels, banker, and sugar tycoon on the Hawaiian islands. Mint Director Horatio Burchard and Barber modified the design and Barber created the master dies and hubs. These coins were struck and entered circulation through the Hawaiian islands.

By 1903 these issues along with earlier Hawaiian coins were recalled by the United States Government. On January 1, 1904 the Hawaiian coinage was demonetized so these coins are no longer legal tender coins. Their mintage and latter redeemed figures are very interesting.

Dime mintage	250,000, only 79 redeemed
Quarter mintage	500,000, 257,400 redeemed
Half Dollar mintage	700,000, 612,245 redeemed
Dollar mintage	500,000, 453,652 redeemed

Only one variety has been reported, that in the quarter series in which there is a “3” seen under the first 8 in the date. Proof sets were limited to a meager 20 sets struck in 1884, for distribution to important Hawaiian dignitaries. The accompanying photo is from Stacks August 10, 1990 sale and is described as belonging to the well known numismatist Wayte Raymond. It is believed Raymond acquired this set during the 1930 depression. The obverse design is simply the bust of King Kalakaua I. The reverse design is usually referred to as the “Arms of Hawaii”. Stack’s cataloger describes this reverse design in great detail, citing an *American Journal of Numismatic*’s article in the October 1883 issue.

“The shield is displayed on a mantle, which is ermine in the version on the coins, but should properly have been the great feather cloak worn by the kings. We suspect that the intricate detail of the feathers proved too difficult to use on a coin, and the ermine mantle was one of the changes made here in the U.S. to the original design. In non-heraldic terms {left and right as seen by the observer}, the upper left and lower right quarters of the shield are composed of 8 horizontal bars colored from the top down; silver, red, blue, silver, red, blue, red. The eight bars representing the eight inhabited islands, and the stripes in the order of the colors of the national flag. “

“The upper right and lower left quarters of the shield are silver, with a “puloulou” upright in each. {a puloulou, or tabu stick, was a long rod with a ball of tapa cloth at the top, and was a symbol of the king, warning others away from his dwelling or property. } Here, it represents the sanctity of the king and the government.”

"The shield is flanked by two supporters in native dress, the one at left holds as spear and dress, the one at right a "Kahili", a feather topped staff, the badge of chiefs. At the center of the shield is a small shield, or "escutcheon of pretense", bearing a red triangular flag {puela}, an ancient flag of the Hawaiian chiefs, with two crossed spears {alia} behind it. The cross at the bottom of the arms is the Star of the Order of Kamehameha, one of four Orders founded by King Kalakaua."

Many of the complete proof sets were broken up to allow collectors to purchase specimens of the one-eight dollar coin, which was struck only in proof, for inclusion in the second run of proof sets. Les Crawley Sr. supplied me with a very informative article, further educating us on these Hawaiian coins. ❖



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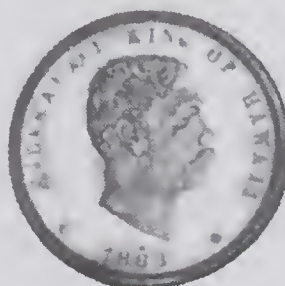
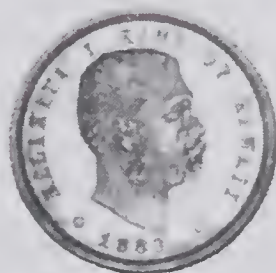
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1883 HAWAIIAN PROOF SET



HAWAIIAN COINAGE

By Les Crawley, Sr.

Kalakaua was known to his subjects by several nicknames, all of which indicated their admiration of him and his methods of governing. Kalakaua was of the royalty (ALII) but he was not a descendent of the KAMEHAMEHA line. Kalakaua had been elected to his office. The name most used and most popular was 'the Merry Monarch.' There is a MERRY MONARCH annual festival and holiday in Hawaii even today.

Kalakaua re-instituted the training and performance of the hula, he called for singing and composing Hawaiian music, he permitted horse racing again. The missionaries objected because they had caused all of these activities to be outlawed shortly after the death of Kamehameha I. Kalakaua loved to gamble; Claus Spreckels was also a gambler. Claus and Kalakaua got along famously together. They spent many evenings gambling in the old Hilo Hotel (still standing and in use). Claus used United States Coin and Currency but Kalakaua was forced to use whatever money was available, whether it be British, Mexican, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese or other. Claus was known to ridicule Kalakaua for not having money of his own kingdom.

These games and attending criticism of the foreign money used by Kalakaua continued until Spreckels was able to convince Kalakaua that, as monarch, he should coin money of the realm. Claus took the task of having dies cut and money struck by the Government of the United States. Dies were prepared in the Philadelphia Mint by Charles Barber and the coins were struck in the San Francisco Mint. 250,000 dimes (umi keneta) were struck.

The obverse of the dime shows Kalakaua's head facing right (exactly identical to the other 3 1883 coins). Surrounding the head from 7 to 5 o'clock are the words "KALAKAUA I KING OF HAWAII". Below his head is the date 1883, separated from the wording by 2 dots. The reverse from 8 to 4 o'clock are the words in Hawaiian "UA MAU KE EA O KA AINA I KA PONO," translated: "THE LIFE OF THE LAND IS PERPETUATED BY RIGHTEOUSNESS." Below is the denomination: UMI KENETA. Umi is Hawaiian for ten (10) and keneta is a bastardization of the English "cent" (keneta). Remember, there is no "T" in the Hawaiian, but the spoken sounds are most difficult to discern. Just inside the wording and date is a wreath of olives (?) tied at the bottom with a ribbon. Inside the wreath are the words in English "ONE DIME" with the crown of the kingdom above.

The Hawaiian dime is the second most available of the coinage. Although only 79 dimes were redeemed and subsequently melted, the remaining 249,921 do not represent an easy access. Many were used in jewelry and many more were kept as souvenirs which were damaged or lost. An MS-60 umi keneta

is valued at \$825 in the Gray Sheet. VG is \$28, F is \$31, VF is \$42 and XF is \$130. Again, I recommend you buy a "slabbed" extremely Fine Coin.

Because the obverses of all the Kalakaua coins are identical, except for size, I will not repeat the obverse description in the future series; instead, I will relate some of the anecdotes about Kalakaua and Hawaii, in general, including the coinage and currency.

.....

The HAPAHA obverse is exactly the same as the UMI KENETA except the HAPAHA is of the US quarter dollar size. As a matter of fact, HAPAHA translates literally as fourth part. In this case, fourth dollar or one quarter... twenty-five cents. "KALAKAUA I KING OF HAWAII" surrounds his bust, with the date 1883 below.

DAVID KALAKAUA was born November 16, 1836. He was a descendent of the independent and fierce chiefs from the Kona area of the island of Hawaii (THE BIG ISLAND). He, twenty some-odd other children and his brothers and sisters were educated at the Chiefs' Children School. KALAKAUA was known as "Taffy" to his friends and assodates. He was well educated, fluent in both Hawaiian and English and was considered a gentleman. His ALII blood lines, education, ability to mingle with the general society and his polished manners earned him many years in the Hawaiian legislature where he sharpened his political skills.

It was the practice in Hawaii that the incumbent monarch name his successor. From the reign of KAMEHAMEHA I, this was not difficult, but with the death of KAMEHAMEHA V (LOT KAMEHAMEHA), Lot had never married, had named his sister as successor but she died before Lot, the KAMEHAMEHA blood line ended and there was no successor for the throne in 1872. An election was held and KALAKAUA lost to WILLIAM LUNALILO, the grandson of a half-brother of KAMEHAMEHA THE GREAT.

LUNALILO ruled for just one year and twenty-six days and he too died without naming a successor. This time KALAKAUA was prepared. He was elected to the throne on February 12, 1874. KALAKAUA was married to Julia KAPIOLANI, grand-daughter of KAUMUALII, the last king of the island of KAUAI. KAPIOLANI has been widowed. She and KALAKAUA remained childless in spite of their many years of happy marriage.

The reverse of the HAPAHA, for its main device shows the shield from the Hawaiian Monarchy Coat of Arms as modified during KALAKAUA's reign. To the left of the shield, centered, are the figures 1/4. To the right, D, abbreviation for "Dala." Surrounding, from 8 o'clock to 4 is the motto, UA MAU KE EA O KA AINA I KA PONO. Beneath the shield, the denomination, HAPAHA. The hapaha is probably the most readily available, in all grades, of any of the Hawaiian coinage. Look at VG - \$27 to MS-65 - \$525. Again, a carefully se-

lected EF-45 will be a good choice, but with an MS-60 costing only \$115, why not “go for broke” as if often said in Hawaiian recommendations.

.....

The HAPALUA coin is the exact size and composition of the US Half Dollar: its obverse is exactly the same as the UMI KENETA and the HAPAHA except its size. It too was struck in 1883 as well as all of the silver coinage of KALAKAUA. HAPALUA translates to half, in two portions, exactly half, or half dollar in this case.

The reverse also repeats that of the HAPAHA in all respects except two. To the left of the shield are the figures 1/2 and beneath the shield is the denomination HAPALUA. The elegance of the design and its simplicity should rank the silver coinage of KALAKAUA among the finest in history, but many consider KALAKAUA not a handsome figure.

Among the Polynesians, KALAKAUA was a very handsome man. He was stately, gracious, kind and though huge in body, he was handsome. Polynesian women were beautiful when the same general criteria were applied. In his prime years, KALAKAUA had few peers.

KALAKAUA and Claus Spreckels grew close socially. How the rapport developed is a subject of much discussion even today. However, it was a bumpy friendship. Spreckels was greedy for land, money and public adulation. He was a very rich man and he commanded all the things his position merited. On the other hand, KALAKAUA was always in need of money. KALAKAUA enjoyed the adulation of the Hawaiian population even if the non-Hawaiians did not participate. KALAKAUA was feted by royalty throughout the world. He and KAPIOLANI traveled around the world. They met heads of state and their rank and position were envied by Spreckels. Each had what the other wanted.

It is a historical fact that Spreckels coveted land owned by the crown. This land amounted to about a million acres and Princess RUTH KEELIKOLANI, the sister of KAMEHAMEHA V claimed a 50% interest in it. Spreckels purchased RUTH’S interest for \$10,000. RUTH’S share being worth \$750,000 at the time and everyone knew its value, including RUTH. This action by Spreckels alienated (again) KALAKAUA and many others. Spreckels true purpose, however, was realized because he had wanted to save the land on which Spreckelsville, Maui is still located.

Spreckels made 20 trips to Hawaii and spent a total of 1,083 days there, many of them in direct association with KALAKAUA. Spreckels’ influence on KALAKAUA cannot be measured. For example, no one was ever able to determine the exact profit Spreckels received on the KALAKAUA coinage, but most historians agree that Spreckels cleared between \$150,000 and \$250,000.

Besides the 250,000 dimes, 500,000 quarters, 700,000 half dollars and 500,000 dollars were struck. The values of dimes: \$25,000; quarters: \$125,000;

half dollars: \$350,000; dollars \$500,000, totaled 1 million dollars for the entire 1883 striking. One million dollars is the amount debited to the Kingdom of Hawaii by Claus Spreckels for his efforts. He collected that amount, too.

The HAPALUA is, according to some, the most difficult to find of the Hawaiian coinage. My personal belief is that the HAPALUA is second to the HAPA HANERI in the tough-to-find category. The HAPALUA sells for \$44 in VG and for \$6,750 in MS-65. With a nice EF-40 costing \$145, one should be selective and choose a good looking 40 or go to EF-45 for a bit more.

.....

The AKAHI DALA is the last coin of the KALAKAUA mintage of 1883, the largest, the exact size of the U. S. Silver Dollar, and the same weight and silver content. It's obverse is like that of each of the other 1883 coins, except for size. 500,000 DALA coins were struck.

The reverse of the coin is the COAT OF ARMS of the Monarchy as changed by KALAKAUA, instead of the Shield which made up the main device on the reverses of the HAPAHA and the HAPALUA. At 4:00 and 8:00 o'clock are 1 and D, designating one DALA. Above and around the Coat Of Arms is the Motto; below are the words AKAHI DALA. AKAHI is one of many ways to say "one" in Hawaiian, but is the correct usage in counting. DALA is the phonetic (Hawaiian) for dollar.

1883 should have been a banner year for KALAKAUA and his wife, KAPIOLANI. Their inauguration and the introduction of coinage bearing KALAKAUA's likeness were momentous events. He and KAPIOLANI had returned from a trip around the world which took them to California, thence to Japan, China, Hong Kong, Southeast Asian countries, Burma, India, Egypt, Italy, England, then back to Europe to France, Belgium, Germany, Austria, Spain and Portugal before returning to the United States. He had met Emperor Mutsuhito (Meiji), Queen Victoria and President Chester Arthur as well as many others. They made stops while crossing the United States before returning to Hawaii to a celebration that lasted several days. A reciprocity treaty had been signed giving Hawaiian sugar preferential treatment over all other foreign sugar entering the United States. His new palace (presently, the only royal palace in the United States) had been completed only the year before. But then things began to fall apart.

Prices of sugar fell. Political differences arose. Silver coinage, including the 1883 mintage, fell into disfavor and its value in relation to gold fell. Claus and KALAKAUA had another falling-out. KALAKAUA changed his cabinet again and reform was being talked about by most of the people. A new constitution was put in force which reduced KALAKAUA almost to the point of "reigning" instead of "ruling." Things did not improve. The KALAKAUA coinage was

redeemed and about 80% of it was melted. For exact numbers of each coinage redeemed and melted see your copy of *World Coins*.

As time passed, conditions did not improve. KALAKAUA's health declined. Along in late 1890, he was transported to California, where it was thought his health would improve. He was feted by the people he had known in earlier visits. But after less than two months in California and Mexico, KALAKAUA died on January 20, 1891 of Bright's Disease (a kidney ailment). He was succeeded on the throne by his sister LILIUOKALANI until the overthrow of the monarchy on January 17, 1893. Incidentally, Queen LILIUOKALANI composed the music and lyrics of the poignantly beautiful "ALOHA OK."

As a matter of some significance, KALAKAUA was the author of HAWAII PONOI, the State of Hawaii Anthem and its former National Anthem. Heinrich Berger, founder of the Royal Hawaiian Band, put the anthem to music.

Only about 46,300 AKAHI DALAs were not melted. This places the extant coins in the category of very scarce, about the same as the 1913 S Barber Quarter Dollar. Most of the remaining coins are circulated. Many were used for "pocket pieces" or mounted in money clips or belt buckles. I believe the AKAHI DALA ranks about in the middle of the Hawaiian coinage for ease in finding although there are very few uncirculated pieces. To buy one, be ready to pay \$110 in VG and up to \$17,500 in MS65. Most will fall in the fine to extremely fine range, \$180 to \$450.

For history, grading, and other very valuable information, please refer to METCALF & RUSSELL, *Hawaiian Money Standard Catalog*, second edition. For current pricing, see the Grey Sheet. ♦



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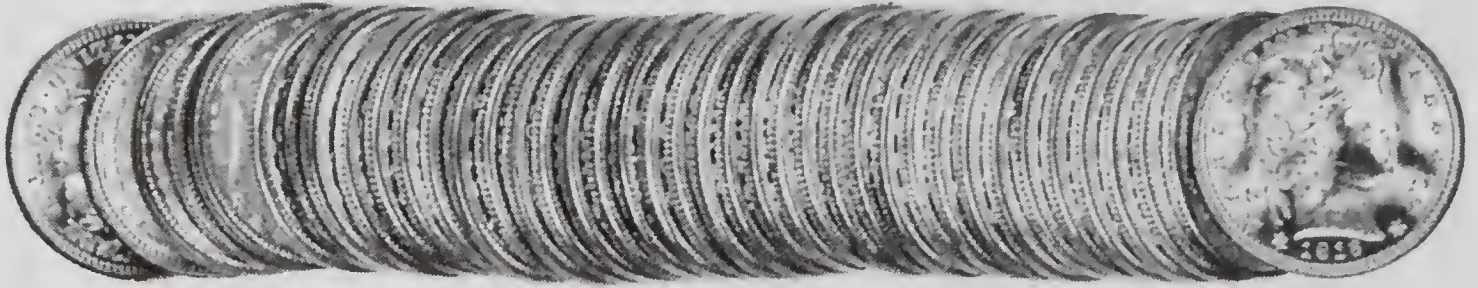
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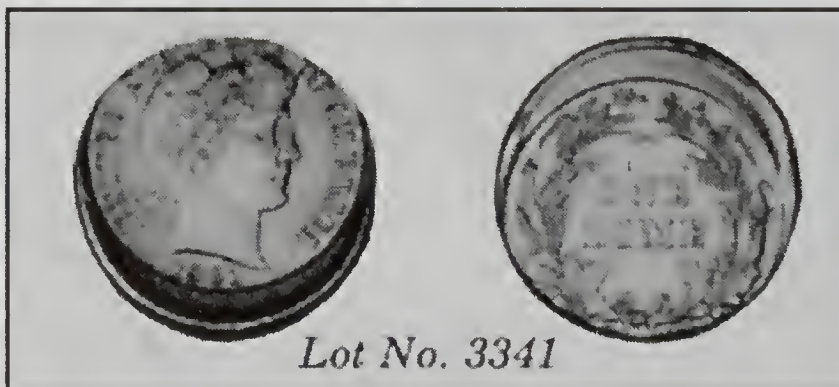
Undoubtedly one of the finest known examples of this scarce date. A total of five coins have been graded MS-65 by both of the major grading services, with only one piece having been graded higher (a 66 by PCGS). Although this coin is as attractive and well as struck as most examples are of this issue, it is somewhat atypical as it lacks the often found semi-prooflike fields and die striae. The surfaces are impeccable and tones a muted blue-gray, lavender, and golden-rose. When inspected closely, one can make out tiny patches of original brilliance in the fields. This coin appears to be an unlisted variety. The mintmark is plainly repunched with the original punch to the left. Also, most of the design details on the reverse appear to be doubled.



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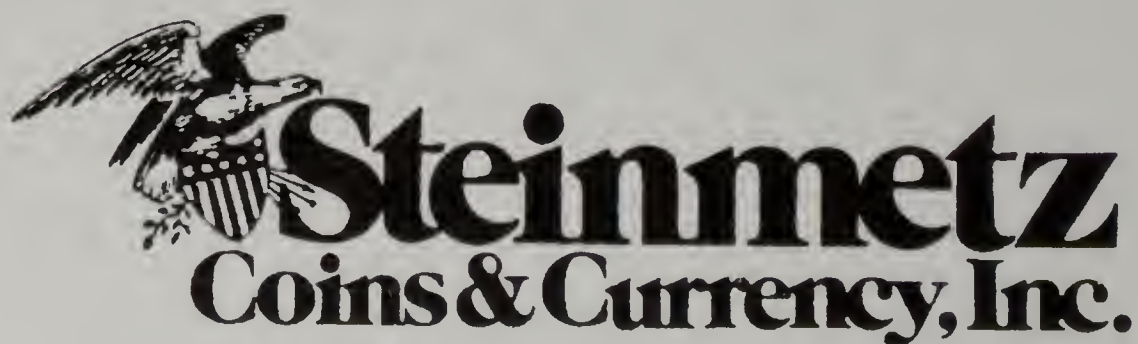
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